(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Surveys conducted by All India Radio have shown that nearly sixty two per cent of the rural families owned radio sets. All India Radio also covers 86 per cent of the country by area and 96 per cent of the population.

Doordarshan programmes/films for fighting communalism

135. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has any plans/projects to produce programmes/films etc. to fight communalism;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any offer from Film personalities to produce a film on this problem free of cost;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has been telecasting programmes promoting communal harmony in different formats e.g. Darshan, Ristha (already telecast), Insanj Rishton Ka Safar (being telecast at present) and Bua Fatima, Dishaheen (under production).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Agitation by production staff of Calcutta Doordarshan

136. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inaction on the part of Government and Doordarshan to resolve the issues and to end up the agitation against privatisation had led the Doordarshan in Calcutta to go off the air on or around the 5th February, 1993;

(b) whether in spite of repeated requests, the fate of casual production assistants could not be resolved over the period of a decade, as a result of which the casual assistants are continuing with paltry sum of Rs. 1200 p.m.

(c) whether the agitation was suspended on the next day under certain agreements; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No Sir .

(b) The matter is before the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the agitation was suspended. It was agreed that some office bearers of NFIBE would meet officials of Ministry to discuss their grievances.

Software programmes for improving quality of Doordarshan presentation

137. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for software programmes on Doordarshan to help improve quality of presentation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to lay down any policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, by when?